# U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana

# Electronic Case Filing (ECF)

https://www.insd.uscourts.gov



User Guide

(June 2003)

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## **ELECTRONIC CASE FILING SYSTEM USER GUIDE**

#### **GETTING STARTED**

#### Introduction

This manual provides instructions for using the Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system to file documents with the court, or to view and retrieve docket sheets and documents for all cases assigned to this system. Users should have a working knowledge of an ECF-compatible web browser and Adobe Acrobat for creating and reading Portable Document Files (PDF).

#### **Help Desk**

Call the ECF Administrator at (317) 229-3718 between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, for telephone assistance in using ECF. If you experience technical difficulties, call the Court's Systems office help desk at (317) 229-3731.

#### **ECF System Capabilities**

Registered users with an ECF-compatible Web browser and access to the World Wide Web can use the District Court's ECF system to perform the following functions.

- Visit the ECF link on the Court's web page to learn more about the ECF system and how to file documents electronically.
- Self-train on ECF using the User Guide, Tutorial, and Training system, which are available on the District Court's ECF Website in the Training Resources section.
- Log into the Court's CM/ECF system to:

Electronically file pleadings and documents in actual cases

View official docket sheets and other documents associated with cases

View various reports for cases that were filed electronically

#### Requirements

#### **Hardware and Software Requirements**

The hardware and software needed to electronically file, view and retrieve case documents are the following:

- A personal computer running a standard operating system such as Microsoft Windows or Macintosh
- An Internet service provider and Web browser. The Court has verified that its installed version of ECF is compatible with Netscape Navigator version 4.6 and 4.7 and Microsoft's Internet Explorer version 5.5.

**Note:** Users of ECF have experienced some compatibility issues with versions of Netscape Navigator lower than 4.6; America On-Line's version of Netscape Navigator; and versions of Internet Explorer other than IE 5.5.

- Adobe Acrobat software to convert documents from the format of their native word processing application to portable document format (PDF).
- A scanner to convert paper documents to digital format for electronic transfer to the Court or to enter electronically into ECF. Use a scanner **ONLY** if you cannot electronically prepare your documents.

Note: When scanning documents for ECF, scan at a resolution of 200 to 240 dpi. Scanning at resolutions greater than 240 dpi tends to clutter the electronic transfer with unwanted markings and print.

#### PACER Registration

ECF users must have a PACER account with the Court in order to use the Query and **Report** features of the ECF system. If you do not have a PACER login, contact the PACER Service Center to establish an account. You may call the PACER Service Center at (800) 676-6856 for information or to register for an account. Also, you may register for PACER online at http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov.

#### Registering for Access to ECF

Attorneys who require access to the Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system should telephone the following Court employee to request a registration form, to discuss their system requirements, and to learn of the court's training assistance. A copy of the registration form is included as an attachment to the ECF User's Manual.

#### **Operational Assistance**

Wendy Carpentier – CM/ECF Administrator

(317) 229-3718

Applicants should return their completed registration form to the District Court Clerk's Office, 46 East Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 where it will be processed by the Clerk's office. After processing the properly completed registration form, the Clerk's office will open a user account and contact the attorney with an ECF system login and password.

#### **PREPARATION**

#### **Setting Up Adobe Acrobat PDF**

Users must install Adobe's Acrobat Reader in order to view documents that have been electronically filed with the Clerk's office. Users will need to install the full version of Adobe's Acrobat software to convert electronic files from their native application format to Portable Document Format (PDF). All new documents prepared for ECF cases must be converted to PDF before transmitting them to the Court electronically through ECF. After installing these products, review and follow Adobe's directions for using Acrobat and Acrobat Reader.

#### Portable Document Format (PDF)

Only documents in PDF format may be filed with the Court using its ECF System. Before sending the file to the Court, users should preview the actual PDF document to ensure it is complete and in the proper format.

#### Viewing a PDF Document

- Open Adobe Acrobat or Acrobat Reader.
- Select [File] on the menu bar and choose [Open] from the drop-down window.
- Click on the location and file name of the PDF document you wish to view.
- Acrobat loads the file and displays it on your screen. Verify it is the document you wish to send.
- If the displayed document is larger than the screen or contains more than one page, use the scroll bars and buttons to move within the document.
- Click on the *View* menu to select other options for viewing the document. Choose the option that best suits your viewing needs.

#### **Converting Electronic Documents to PDF Format**

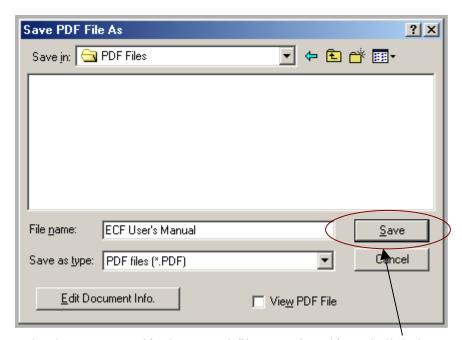
You must convert all of your documents from their native word processing application to PDF format before submitting them to the Court through it's Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system. The conversion process requires Adobe Acrobat or Word Perfect 9 wordprocessing application with its built-in PDF conversion capabilities.

#### From Word Perfect Version 9

- Open the document in WP9.
- From the menu bar, click on [File] and from the drop-down menu select [Publish to PDF].
- Save the file as a PDF file, giving it a .pdf extension.
- The file is now in Adobe PDF format under the newly designated name. The original document remains in WP9 format with its original file name.

# For all other versions of WordPerfect, all versions of Microsoft Word, all Microsoft Office products, and other Adobe Acrobat-supported software applications

- Install Adobe Acrobat on your computer
- Open the document you wish to convert.
- Select [Print] from the menu bar. Within the *Current Printer* field of the *Printer* window, select the option to change the selected printer. A drop down menu opens and a list of printer choices is displayed.
- Select Acrobat Distiller.
- Click **[OK]** to "print" the file. Instead of the file printing to your printer, the following window opens.



- Name the document, verify the "saved file type" is .pdf, and click the [Save] button.
- Your document is now saved as a PDF file and can be uploaded to ECF later in the filing process.

#### **BASICS**

#### **User Interactions**

Users normally interact with the Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system in three ways.

- Entering information in data fields
- Mouse-clicking on hyperlinks
- Selecting command buttons to direct system activities.

#### **Conventions used in this Manual:**

• User data entry is shown enclosed in angle brackets: <data entry>.

- Hyperlinks are displayed in <u>underlined boldface type</u>.
- Command buttons appear in [bracketed boldface type].

#### **Incorrectly Filed Documents**

A document incorrectly filed in a case may result from: a) attaching the wrong PDF file when filing electronically; b) selecting the wrong document type from the menu options; or c) entering the wrong case number and not discovering the error before completing the transaction.

To request a correction, telephone one of the following members of Courthouse Operations for assistance.

Wendy Carpentier – ECF Administrator (317) 229-3718 Won Mi Koh – ECF Systems Administrator (317) 229-3731

You will need to provide the cause and document numbers for the document requiring correction. If appropriate, the court will make an entry indicating that the document was filed in error. You will be advised if you need to re-file the document. The ECF system does not permit you to make changes to a misfiled document or incorrect docket entry after a transaction has been accepted.

#### **Viewing Transaction Log**

This feature, selected from the <u>Utilities</u> menu, allows you to review all transactions ECF has processed with your login and password. If you believe or suspect that someone is using your login and password without your permission, change your password immediately, then telephone the Clerk's office as soon as possible.

#### **User Guide**

You can view or download the most recent version of the ECF User Manual (in PDF format) from the District Court's web page. Enter <a href="http://www.insd.uscourts.gov">http://www.insd.uscourts.gov</a> in your browser's location field and, when the Court's web page opens, click on the <a href="Electronic Case Filing">Electronic Case Filing</a> hyperlink.

**Note:** The ECF User Manual is best viewed using Version 5 of Adobe Acrobat Reader. The electronic version of the User Manual contains bookmarks to help you navigate quickly from one section to another. This bookmarking feature can be viewed only with Acrobat Reader 5.0. Users can download a free copy of Acrobat Reader 5.0 from Adobe's website at <a href="http://www.adobe.com">http://www.adobe.com</a>.

#### **ENTERING THE ECF SYSTEM**

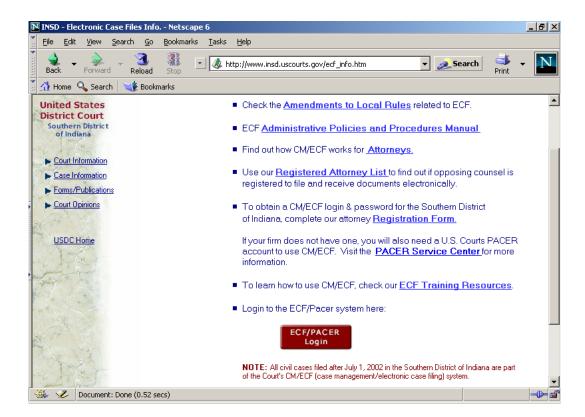
This section of the User's Manual provides instructions for entering the Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system. You may enter the system by going to the Web page for the District Court for the Southern District of Indiana at <a href="http://www.insd.uscourts.gov">http://www.insd.uscourts.gov</a> and clicking on the <a href="https://www.insd.uscourts.gov">Electronic Case Filing</a> hyperlink. See Figure 1.

#### Figure 1



After clicking on the <u>CM/ECF</u> hyperlink, a new screen opens providing the user with several choices for using ECF. See Figure 2. From the screen depicted in Figure 2, select <u>ECF/Pacer login</u> to enter the live ECF system. The screen depicted in Figure 2 also contains hyperlinks to the ECF Tutorial, ECF User's Manual, and ECF Training Area.

#### Figure 2



After you have selected **ECF/PACER Login**, the ECF *Welcome* screen appears as depicted in Figure 3.

Alternatively, registered users may enter the ECF system directly by typing the following URL into the location field of their ECF-compatible web browser.

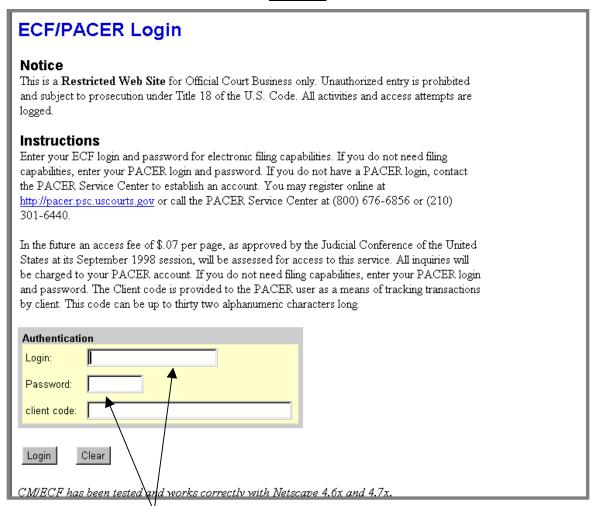
https://ecf.insd.uscourts.gov

This URL connects you directly to the District Court's ECF screen depicted in Figure 3.

#### Logging In

Figure 3 depicts the login screen.

#### Figure 3



Enter your ECF login name and user password in the appropriate data entry fields. It is important to remember that all ECF login names and passwords are case sensitive.

**Note:** Use your **ECF** login and password if you are entering the system to *file* a pleading or to *maintain* your account. If you only wish to enter ECF to *query* the database for case information or to *view* a document, enter your **PACER** login and password.

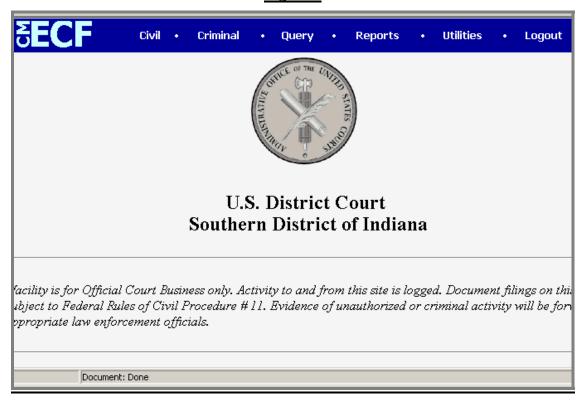
Verify that you have entered your ECF login and password correctly. If not, click on the **[Clear]** button to erase the login and password entries and re-enter the correct information. After you enter the correct login and password information, click on the **[Login]** button to transmit your user information to the ECF system.

• If the ECF system does not recognize your login and password, it will display the following error message on a new screen.

#### Login failed either your login name or key is incorrect.

- Click on the browser [Back] button and re-enter your correct login and password.
- After ECF accepts your login and password, your monitor will display the Main ECF screen with a *Blue* functional selection menu bar at the top. See Figure 5.

Figure 5



**Note:** The date and time *you last logged into the system* appears at the bottom left corner of this screen. You should review this information each time you login. If you believe the date and time of your last login are not correct, or you suspect an unauthorized party is using your login and password, telephone the court's Help Desk with this information as soon as possible.

#### **Selecting ECF Features**

ECF provides the following features that are accessible from the *Blue* menu bar at the top of the opening screen.

<u>Civil</u> -	Select <u>Civil</u> to electronically <i>file</i> civil case pleadings, motions, and other court documents.
<u>Query</u> -	<b>Query</b> ECF by specific case number or party name to retrieve information and documents that are relevant to the case. You <i>must</i> login to <b>PACER</b> before you can query ECF.
Reports -	Choose <b>Reports</b> to retrieve calendar events, cases-filed reports, and docket sheets. You <i>must</i> login to <b>PACER</b> before you can view an ECF report.
<u>Utilities</u> -	View your personal ECF transaction log and maintain personal ECF account information in the <u>Utilities</u> area of ECF.
Logout -	Provides the means to gracefully exit from ECF.

#### **CIVIL EVENTS FEATURE**

Registered filers will use the Civil Events feature of ECF to electronically file with the Court a variety of pleadings, motions, and other documents for civil cases. See the list of ECF document types that are available at the back of this manual. This section of the manual describes the basic steps that you need to take in order to file a single **Motion** with the Court. The process is consistent regardless of the event.

#### **General Rules and Manipulations**

#### Manipulating the Screens

Each event screen has two buttons associated with data entry:

- Use the Clear button to remove all characters entered in its associated field or box.
- Use the Next button or the Submit button to accept entered data and display the next data-entry screen.

#### Correcting a mistake



Use the **[Back]** button on the Netscape toolbar to retrieve the previous screen to correct data entry errors. Only the Clerk's office can make changes or corrections to documents that have already been transmitted to the court.

#### **Signatures**

Documents bearing original signatures or notarial seals (e.g. affidavits, stipulations, etc.) are to be filed in electronic form. The filing of such a document by an attorney certifies that the original signed (and, if applicable, sealed) document is in the attorney's possession.

#### Filing a Civil Complaint

Civil complaints and other initiating documents shall be filed <u>in paper form</u> at the Clerk's Office. Present the Clerk's office with: *a) Civil Cover Sheet (JS-44c) b) copy of the complaint, and c) payment for your \$150.00 filing fee in the form of a check or money order.* 

**Note:** The Clerk's Office will open the case in ECF, scan the complaint into PDF format, and docket the initiating documents. You will receive electronic notice for each docket entry if you are registered with an ECF login and password.

#### Filing Documents for Civil Cases

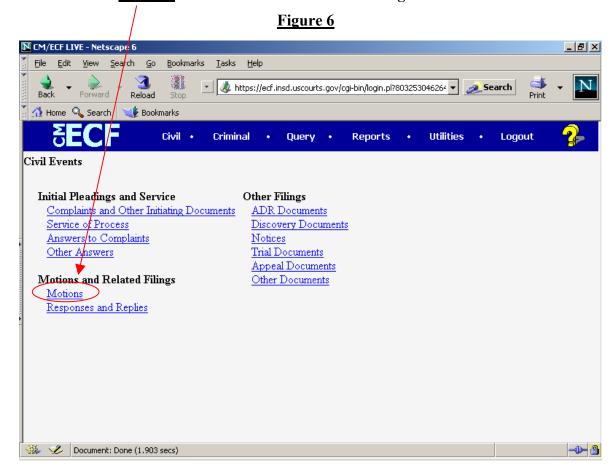
There are eight basic steps for filing a pleading in ECF.

- 1) Select the type of Civil Event to file (i.e. specific motion, answer, notice, etc.)
- 2) Enter the cause number for which the pleading is being filed
- 3) Designate the parties for whom the pleading is being filed.
- 4) Select the PDF document to file
- 5) Add attachments, if any, to the document being filed (i.e. proposed order, exhibit, etc.)
- 6) Modify docket text as necessary
- 7) Submit the pleading to ECF system
- 8) Receive notification of docketing

After successfully logging into ECF, follow these steps to file a pleading.

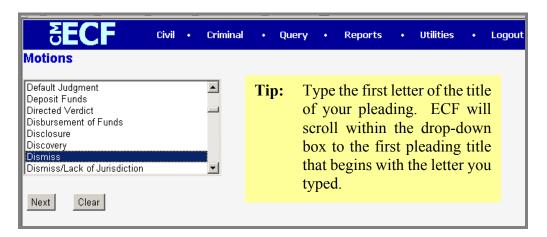


- Select the type of Civil Event that is being filed.
  - Select <u>Civil</u> from the blue menu bar at the top of the ECF screen. The Civil Event window opens displaying all of the events from which you may choose for your filing. See Figure 6. This section of the User's Manual describes the process for filing a **Motion** in ECF. The process is similar for filing other pleadings in ECF.
  - Click on Motions under Motions and Related Filings



The **Motions** screen appears and displays a motion selection field with a scroll bar next to it. See Figure 7. Scroll through the menu until you find the type of motion or application you wish to file. For demonstration purposes, highlight **Dismiss** and click on the **[SUBMIT]** button.

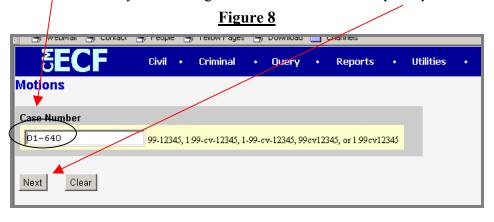
#### Figure 7



**Note:** To select more than one motion, press and hold down the **Ctrl** key, and click on each of the desired multiple forms of relief.

#### 2. Locate the Case for Which the Pleading is Being Filed

A new **Motions** screen (Figure 8) opens with a Case Number field. Enter the number of the case for which you are filing a motion and click on the [Next] button.



**Note:** ECF defaults to the last case from which you worked. *Ensure the proper case number is entered in this field to avoid filing your pleading to the wrong case.* 

- If you submit a case number that is formatted incorrectly, ECF will prompt an error message advising you of the correct format for entering the case number.
- Click **[OK]** to acknowledge and close the error message. Click the **[Clear]** button on the **Motions** screen and re-enter the case number in the correct format.
- Click on the [SUBMIT] button.

#### Figure 9



**Note:** The case number and name is a hyperlink to the **Reports** feature of ECF. If you click on the case hyperlink, ECF will retrieve and display its docket sheet.

#### 3. Designate the Parties for Whom the Document is Being Filed

ECF opens a new **Motions** screen that displays the number and name of the case you selected and the names of the parties involved in the case. See Figure 9. If ECF has opened the wrong case, click on the Netscape [Back] button, check for the proper case number, and resubmit it to ECF.

Highlight the name of the party or parties for whom you are filing the motion. If you represent all defendants or all plaintiffs you may select the entire group by holding down the control key while pointing and clicking on each party of the group.

**Note:** If the list depicted in Figure 9 does not display the party or parties you represent, contact the Clerk's office with your party's information. Only Court personnel with pre-approved ECF security permissions can add or create new parties to a case. If you click on the **Add/Create New Party** hyperlink in the screen above, ECF returns an error message advising you of this restriction.

After highlighting the parties to the motion, click on the [Next] button.

#### 4. Specify the PDF Document to File

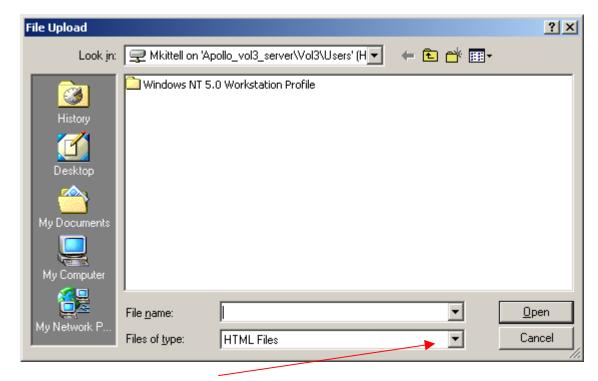
ECF accepts the party or parties you selected and refreshes the screen to display a new **Motions** screen depicted in Figure 10. ECF displays a field for locating and entering the PDF file of the document (pleading) you are filing in ECF.

**Note:** It is imperative that you attach an electronic copy of the actual pleading when prompted by the system. All documents that you intend to file in ECF **MUST** exist in **PDF** format. Otherwise, ECF will not accept the document.

Figure 10



• Click on the [Browse] button. ECF opens the screen depicted below.

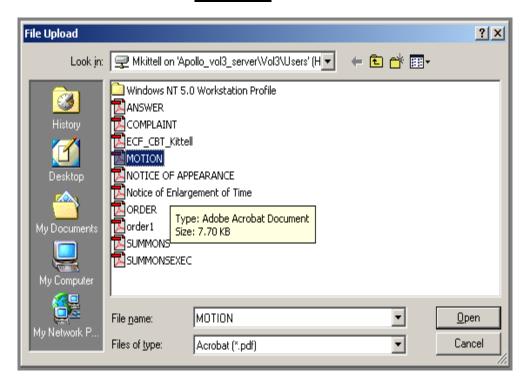


• Change the **Files of type** from: to:

- Navigate to the appropriate directory and file name to select the PDF document you wish to file.
- Click on and highlight the filename to upload to ECF. See Figure 11A on the next page.

**Note:** In order to verify that you have selected the correct document, right mouse click on the highlighted file name to open a **quick menu** and left mouse click on **[open]**. Adobe Acrobat or Acrobat Reader will launch and open the PDF document that you selected. You should view it to verify that it is the correct document.

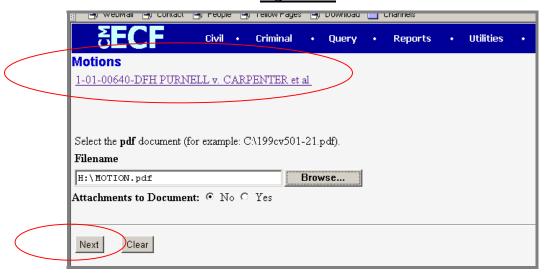
Figure 10A



**Note:** Ensure that the highlighted file name appears in the **File name** field as depicted in Figure 10A. The Court suggests you choose a descriptive name for the document file that indicates the case number and title of the pleading.

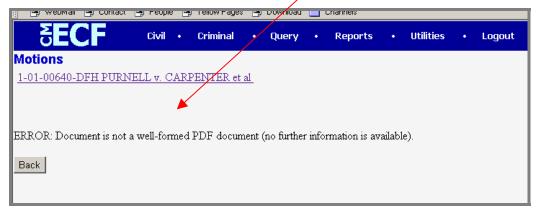
• Click on the [Open] button from the screen depicted in Figure 10A. ECF closes the File Upload screen and inserts the PDF file name and location in the Motions screen depicted in Figure 10B.

#### Figure 10B



- If there are no attachments to the motion, click on [Next]. A new Motions window opens as depicted in Figure 13 on page 19. Go to Section 7, "RefiningDocket Text", to proceed with your filing.
- If you have Attachments to your motion, you will select [Yes] on the screen depicted in Figure 10B. Click on [SUBMIT] and proceed to the first step in Section 6, "Adding Attachments to Documents Being Filed".

In the event you selected and highlighted a file that is *not* in PDF format, ECF will display the following error message after you click on the [Next] button.



- ECF will not permit you to select a file for your pleading that is not in PDF format.
- Click on the **[Back]** button and ECF will return to the **Motions** screen depicted in Figure 10. Select and highlight the PDF file of your pleading and proceed as before.

#### Failure to Select A Document to File

If you fail to select a document to file with your pleading, ECF will display the error message depicted in Figure 11.

Figure 11



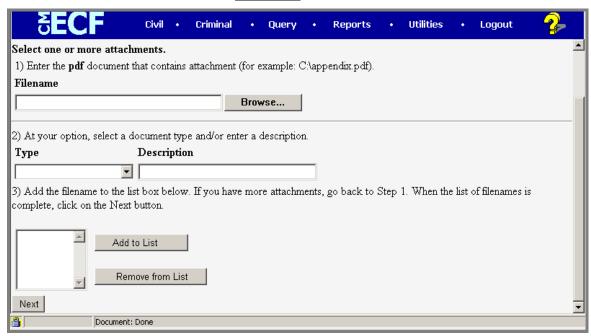
• Use the [Back] button on the Netscape toolbar to return to the screen depicted in Figure 10B. Enter the PDF file name for the document you are filing.

At any point during your filing, you may click on the Netscape **[Back]** button to return to the screen in Figure 10. Identify a PDF document and proceed with the filing.

#### 5. Adding Attachments to Documents being Filed

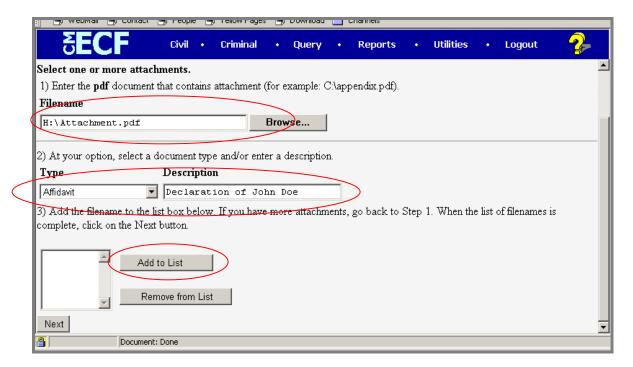
If you indicated the need to attach documents to your motion during the previous step, a new **Motions** screen appears as depicted in Figure 12.

Figure 12



- Click on [Browse] to search for the document file name of the attachment.
- Next to the field for Attachment **Type**, click on the arrow and ECF opens a pulldown screen. Highlight the type of attachment from the displayed selection.
- To describe the attachment more fully, click in the **Description** box and type a clear and concise description of the attachment.
- Click on [Add to List].

ECF adds the selected document as an attachment to the pleading. A new **Motions** screen opens to display the file name of the newly attached document.



- Repeat the sequence for each additional attachment.
- After adding all of the desired PDF documents as attachments, click on [Next].

The previous screen closes and ECF opens a new **Motions** window as depicted in Figure 13.

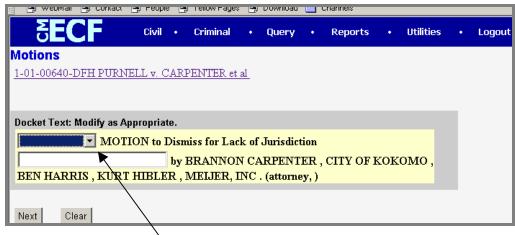
#### Filing Attachments and Exhibits That Originate From Paper Documents

The Court requires you to file all ECF documents, including attachments and exhibits, in electronic format. If an attachment or exhibit is in paper format, electronically scan and convert it to a PDF file. Attach the PDF file of your exhibit or attachment to the pleading as described in Step 6. However, *if* the document is more than *500 pages* long, you may submit it in paper format.

To submit the document in paper format, prepare a one-page *PDF* document titled *Notice of Manual Filing*. (A sample format is included as an attachment to the user's manual.) Attach the PDF Notice to your pleading as described in Step 6. Include a notation in the docket text that attachments or exhibits are being held in the Clerk's office in paper format. If you file attachments and exhibits in paper format, you *must provide an original for the Clerk's Office, a copy for the Judge and a copy served on all parties in the case*.

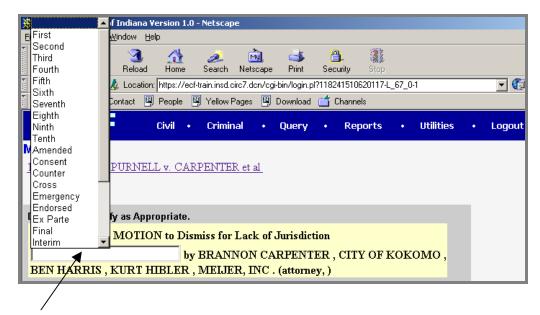
#### 6. Refining Docket Text

Figure 13



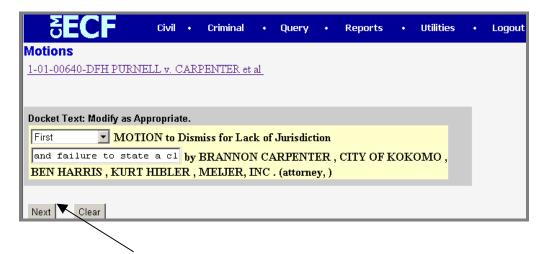
Click on the button in Figure 13 to open a modifier drop-down list. Select the correct modifier. See Figure 13A.

Figure 13A



 Click on the field by the party's name and type additional text for the description of the pleading that you wish to appear in the docket report. See Figure 13B on the next page.

#### .<u>Figure 13B</u>



#### 7. Submit Filing

- Click on the [Next] button. A new Motions window appears (Figure 13c) with the complete text for the docket report.
- Review the docket text and correct any errors. If you need to modify data on a
  previous screen, click the [Back] button on the Netscape toolbar to under previous
  actions and locate the screen you wish to alter.

Figure 13C

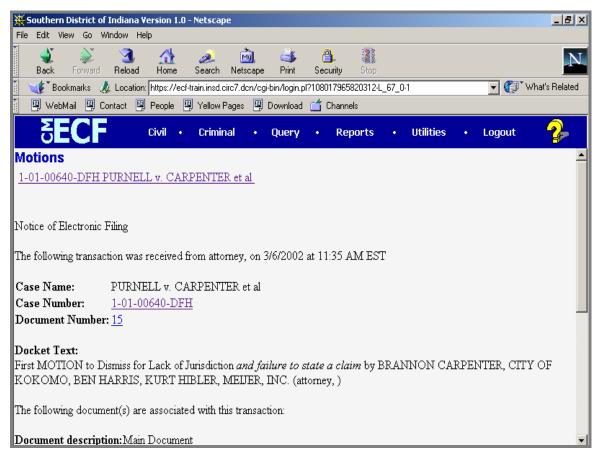


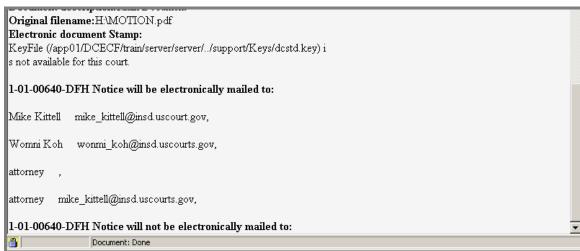
• Click on the [Next] button to file and docket the pleading.

#### 8. Notice of Electronic Filing

ECF opens a new Motions window displaying an ECF filing receipt. See Figure 14.

Figure 14





- The screen depicted in Figure 14 provides confirmation that ECF has registered your transaction and the pleading is now an official court document. It also displays the date and time of your transaction and the number that was assigned to your document. You should note this number on the document's PDF file.
- Select [**Print**] on the Netscape Toolbar to print the document receipt.

• Select [File] on the Netscape menu bar, and choose Save Frame As...from the drop-down window to save the receipt to a file on the hard drive of your computer.

**Note:** The **Notice of Electronic Filing** confirms your Certificate of Service. The Court strongly urges you to copy it to a file on your computer hard-drive, print it, and retain a hard copy in your personal files.

• ECF will email the **Notice of Electronic Filing** to the attorneys and parties to the case who are registered with an ECF login and password. The ECF filing report also displays the names and addresses of individuals who will *not* be electronically notified of the filing. It is the <u>filer's</u> responsibility to serve hard copies of the pleading <u>and</u> the **Notice of Electronic Filing** to attorneys and parties who are not setup for electronic notification.

#### **EMail Notification of Documents That Were Filed**

After a pleading is electronically filed, the ECF System sends a **Notice of Electronic Filing** to all attorneys of record (and any additional designated recipients) who are registered with an ECF login and password. Individuals who receive electronic notification of the filing are permitted "one free look" at the filed document by clicking on the associated hyperlinked *document number* embedded in the **Notice of Electronic Filing**. The filer is permitted one free look at the document *and* the Docket Sheet to verify that the pleading was properly docketed. The Court strongly urges you to copy the **Notice of Electronic Filing** *and* pleading documents to your hard-drive for future access. Subsequent retrieval of the case docket sheet and pleading from CM/ECF must be made through your PACER account and is subject to regular PACER fees.

**Note:** It is the responsibility of filers to send paper copies of the pleading and **Notice of Electronic Filing** to attorneys and pro se parties who are not registered with an ECF login and password.

#### **Filing Other Types of Documents**

Registered users who wish to file a document other than a motion should make the appropriate selection from the **Civil Events** menu. The process for other filings is very similar to what has been described in this guide for filing a motion.

#### **QUERY FEATURE**

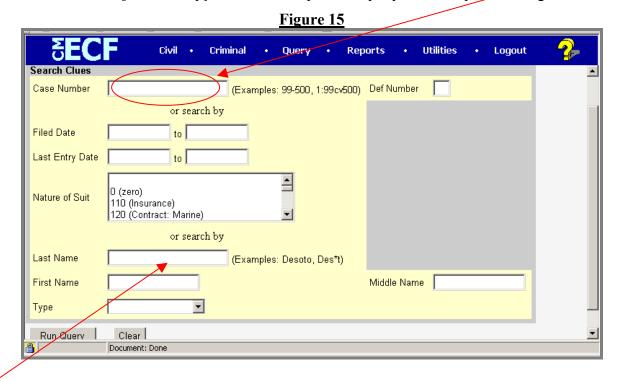
Registered participants may use this feature to query the Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system for specific case information. To enter the Query mode, click on **Query** from the **Blue** menu bar of ECF.



ECF opens the **PACER Login** screen. You must enter your **PACER** login and password before ECF permits you to query the ECF database.

**Note:** Your PACER login and password are different from your ECF login and password. You must have a PACER account in order to retrieve, view, and print certain documents. You will be charged a fee of \$.07 per page to access documents, docket sheets, etc. from ECF.

After you enter your PACER login and password, ECF opens a Query data entry screen as depicted in Figure 15. If you know the number that the Court has assigned to the case, enter it in the **Case Number** field and click on the [**Run Query**] button. ECF opens the query screen depicted in Figure 16.



Also, you may query the ECF database by the name of a party or an attorney to the case. Enter the last name of the party in the appropriate field in Figure 15. If more than one person with that name is in the database, ECF returns a screen from which to select the correct name. If you click on the name of the party, ECF will open the query screen (Figure 16). If the individual is a party to more than one case, ECF will open a screen listing all of the party's cases. Click on the case number hyperlink and ECF opens the query screen .

After querying the database by case number or by name, ECF opens the **Query** window for the specific case you selected.





At the top of the window, ECF displays the case number, parties to the case, presiding Judge, date that the initial claim was filed, and date of last filing for the case. You may choose specific case information from a large list of query options by clicking on the appropriate hyperlinked name on the screen depicted in Figure 17B. The following paragraphs describe several of the available case-specific query options.

#### **Attorney**

Displays the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the attorneys who represent each of the parties in the case. In addition to the above-mentioned attorney information, an attorney's email address will appear under his/her phone and fax number if he or she is a registered ECF user. Use this link to determine whether an attorney is registered in the ECF system to file electronically and receive electronic notice of filings.

#### **Case Summary**

Provides a summary of current case-specific information.

#### **Deadlines/Schedule**

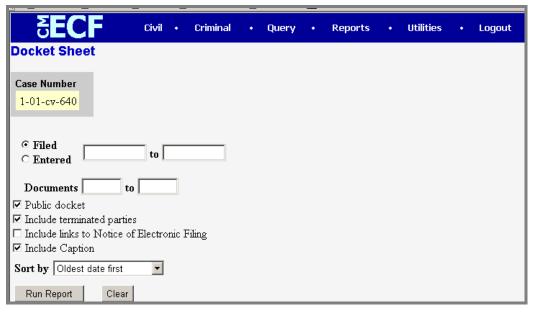
Produces a screen that allows you to query the database by various means to obtain hearing and other schedule deadlines. If you query as illustrated below, ECF opens the **Deadline/Hearings** screen.

After the window opens, if you click on a document number, ECF will display the actual Scheduling Order for the conference or hearing.

#### **Docket Report**

When you select Docket Report, ECF opens the Docket Sheet screen as depicted in Figure 17.

Figure 17

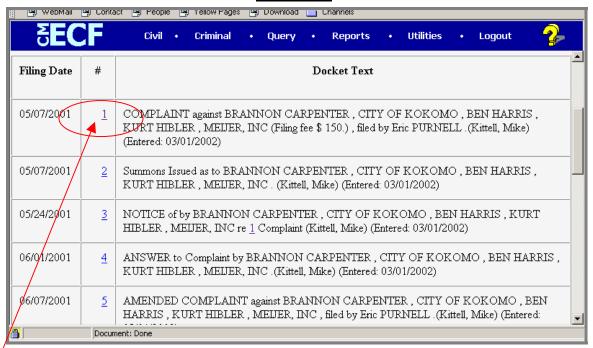


You may select a date range for your docketing report as well as a range of docketing numbers. If you leave the range fields blank, ECF will default to print the entire docketing report. Place a checkmark in the box to **Include links to Notice of Electronic Filing** if you wish to view them from the docket Sheet. After you have selected the parameters for your report, click on the **[Run Report]** button. ECF will run your custom docketing report and display it in a window as depicted in Figures 17A and B.

Figure 17A



Figure 17B



The document numbers in the middle column of Figure 17B are hyperlinks to PDF files of the actual documents. Place your pointer on the button next to the document number and click to display the document.

#### **History/Documents**

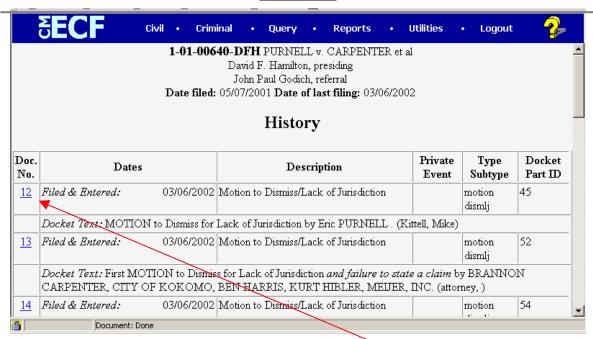
This selection queries the database for case event history and documents associated with the case. After you click on the <u>History/Documents</u> hyperlink, ECF opens the screen depicted in Figure 18. You may select the sort order for the query report and choose to exhibit all events or only those with documents attached. ECF also offers you the option to display the docket text in the report.

Figure 18



After making your selections, click on the [Run Query] button. ECF queries the database and builds your report. Figure 18 depicts a portion of a **History/Documents** report. This particular report lists all of the events and documents associated with the case in reverse chronological order. It also displays the docketing text for all docketed events.

Figure 18A



You may view a PDF file of actual documents by clicking on the document number in the far-left column of the onscreen report.

#### **Other Queries**

The process for selecting and running other queries in the **Query** feature of ECF is similar to what has been described above.

#### **REPORTS FEATURE**

The Reports feature of ECF provides the user with several report options. After selecting the Reports feature from the *Blue* menu bar, ECF opens the **Reports** screen depicted in Figure 19.

Figure 19



If you select Cases Filed or Docket Sheet from the screen depicted in Figure 16, ECF will ask you to login to PACER. You may view Court Calendar Events for a case without logging into PACER.

#### **Docket Sheet**

Click on the **Docket Sheet** hyperlink in Figure 16 and ECF opens the **PACER** login screen.

Enter your **PACER** login and password. Click on the **[Login]** button and ECF will open the Docket Sheet report query window depicted in Figure 20.

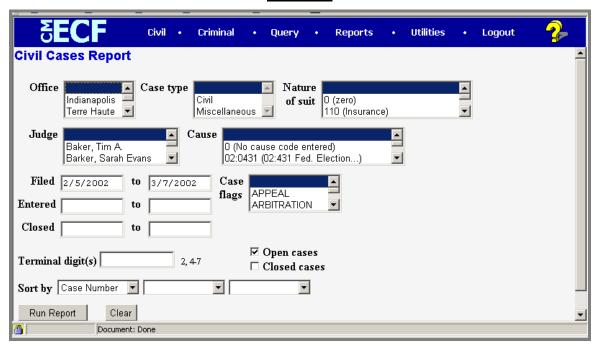
Figure 20 Civil Criminal **Utilities**  Query Reports Logout **Docket Sheet** Case number 01-640 Filed to C Entered Documents ☑ Public docket ✓ Include terminated parties Include links to Notice of Electronic Filing ☑ Include Caption Sort by Oldest date first -Run Report Clear

This is the same query window that ECF displayed when you selected **Docket Report** from the **Query** feature (Page 23, Figure 18). Enter the case number for your docket sheet in the **Case Number** field. Select parameters for the remainder of the data entry fields and click on the **[Run Report]** button. ECF will display a full docket sheet for the case you selected. See Figures 17A and 17B (**Query** feature) for a depiction of a partial docket sheet report. If you do not need a complete docket sheet, you can narrow the query using the date fields. ECF also offers various sorting options from the Docket Sheet query screen.

#### **Civil Cases Report**

The **Civil Cases** report provides you with the flexibility to query the ECF database to locate cases electronically filed within a specific date range, assigned to a particular judge, or both. When you click on the **Civil Cases** hyperlink, ECF displays a query screen as depicted in Figure 21.

Figure 21



**Note:** If you are not logged into **PACER**, ECF will display the **PACER** login screen. Login to **PACER** and ECF will open the **Civil Cases Report** screen depicted in Figure 21.

Enter the range of case filing dates for your report and select a presiding judge, if you wish to narrow your search. If you enter a date range and do not select a judge, ECF will display all of the cases filed within your date range for all judges. If you choose a judge and leave the date fields blank, ECF will display all of the cases opened in ECF for the judge that you selected. If you leave all fields blank, ECF will display a report for all cases opened in ECF. Figure 22 depicts part of a report of all cases filed in ECF at the U.S. District Court from 2/5/2000 to 3/7/2002.

Figure 22



The far-left column of the report in Figure 22 contains hyperlinked case numbers. If you click on a particular case number, ECF opens the **Docket Sheet** report window from which you can retrieve the docket sheet for the selected case. Follow the instructions in the previous section for a Docket Sheet report.

#### **UTILITIES FEATURE**

The **Utilities** feature provides the means for registered users to maintain their account in ECF and to view all of their ECF transactions. Figure 23 depicts the opening screen for the ECF Utilities feature.

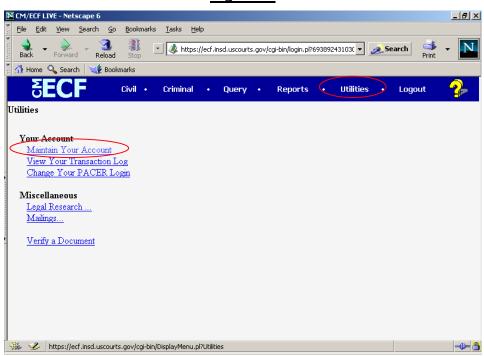


Figure 23

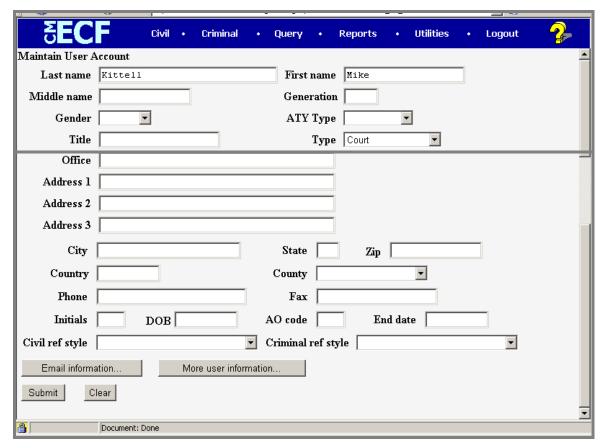
#### Your Account

This section of the **Utilities** feature provides you the capability to maintain certain aspects of your ECF account with the Court and to view a log of all your transactions within ECF.

#### **Maintain Your Account**

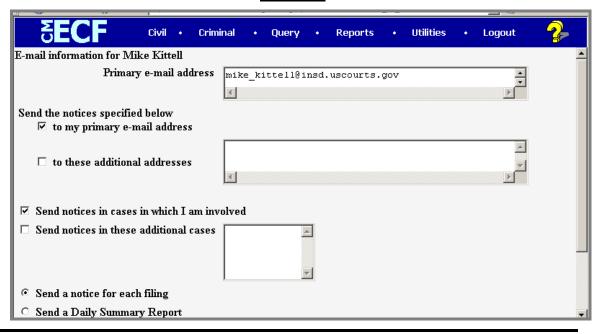
Click on the <u>Maintain Your Account</u> hyperlink to open the <u>Maintain User Account</u> information screen. See Figure 24.

#### Figure 24



This screen displays all of the registration information that is contained within the ECF database for your ECF account with the Court. This includes Bar Identification and Bar status. Clicking on the **[Email information]** button opens a screen as depicted in Figure 25.

Figure 25



ECF will EMail to parties their **Notices of Electronic Filing** based upon the information entered in this screen. Perform the following steps to enter additional email addresses for individuals that you wish ECF to notify regarding new case pleadings and documents.

- From the screen depicted in Figure 25A, enter a checkmark by clicking on the box to the left of the line, which reads "to these additional addresses".
- Enter the email addresses of those individuals you wish to notify concerning ECF activity. This data entry field has a capacity of 250 characters for approximately ten EMail addresses.

Send the notices specified below

to my primary e-mail address

mary\_smith@doebuckandfawn.com
john\_doe@doebuckandfawm.com

you to these additional addresses

Send notices in cases in which I am involved

Send notices in these additional cases

Figure 25A

 Stipulate the format of the ECF notices by selecting your choice from the bottom of the screen.

html format for Natsgang on ICD a mail corrier

Send a notice for each filingSend a Daily Summary Report

• If you wish to enter completely new information about your account, use the [Clear] button to clear the fields on this screen.

After updating your account information, click on the [Return to Account screen] button to return to your Maintain User Account screen (Figure 26).

To edit or view login information about your account, select the button labeled **More user information**, from the **Maintain User Account** screen. ECF opens the screen depicted in Figure 26.

Figure 26

This screen displays user login information and provides the means to change your ECF password. Notice that ECF displays a string of asterisks in the **Password** field. To change your ECF password, place your cursor in the **Password** field and delete the asterisks. Type in your new password. ECF displays the actual characters of your new password as you type. When you have completed your interface with ECF from this screen, click on the **[Return to Account screen]** button to reopen the **Maintain User Account** screen. When you are satisfied that all of your account information is accurate and up-to-date, click on the **[Submit]** button at the bottom of the **Maintain User Account** screen to submit your changes to ECF. You must again click on the submit button on the following page for changes to be applied to your account. ECF will notify you onscreen that your updates were accepted. If you changed passwords, you may begin using the new password during your next ECF session.

#### **View Your Transaction Log**

From the **Utilities** screen, click on the **[View your Transaction Log]** button. ECF opens a screen with two fields for entering the Date Selection Criteria for a Transaction Log Report. Enter the date range for your report and click on the **[Submit]** button. ECF displays a report of all your transactions in ECF within the date range you specified for Date Selection Criteria. See Figure 27 for a sample transaction log report.

Figure 27

_			
	117962 02/26/2002 14:37:04	1-01-cv-333	COMPLAINT against ASPHALT MATERIAL, INC , THE HERITAGE GROUP, INC (Filing fee \$ 150.) , filed by ECORP, INC .(Kittell, Mike)
ı	117963 02/26/2002 14:41:14	1-01-cv-333	Summons Issued as to THE HERITAGE GROUP, INC . (Kittell, Mike)
ı	117964 02/26/2002 14:41:52	1-01-cv-333	Summons Issued as to ASPHALT MATERIAL, INC . (Kittell, Mike)
	117971 02/26/2002 14:55:57	1-01-cv-333	SUMMONS Returned Executed by ECORP, INC . ASPHALT MATERIAL, INC served on 4/11/2001, answer due 5/1/2001; THE HERITAGE GROUP, INC served on 4/11/2001, answer due 5/1/2001. (Kittell, Mike)
	117972 02/26/2002 14:59:52	1-01-cv-333	NOTICE of Appearance by Alan L. McLaughlin on behalf of ASPHALT MATERIAL, INC , THE HERITAGE GROUP, INC (Kittell, Mike)
	117973 02/26/2002 15:05:12	1-01-cv-333	NOTICE of Initial Enlargement of Time to answer by ASPHALT MATERIAL, INC, THE HERITAGE GROUP, INC to answer re [1] Complaint by May 30, 2001 (Kittell, Mike)
	117974 02/26/2002 15:07:36	1-01-cv-333	MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer by ASPHALT MATERIAL, INC, THE HERITAGE GROUP, INC. (Kittell, Mike)
	117975 02/26/2002 15:10:50	1-01-cv-333	ORDER granting [7] Motion for Extension of Time to Answer . Signed by Judge David F. Hamilton on 5/30/01. (Kittell, Mike)
ı	117076 00000000 161400	1 01 000	NOTICE of Appearance by Gary P. Price on behalf of ECORP, INC (Kittell,

Use this feature of ECF to review your transactions and to verify that:

- all of the transactions you entered are reflected in the Transaction Log
- no unauthorized individuals have entered transactions into ECF using your login name and password.

#### **Miscellaneous**

ECF provides three **Miscellaneous** functions within the Utilities feature of the system.

- Legal Research
- Mailings
- Verify a Document

When you click on the <u>Legal Research</u> hyperlink from the **Miscellaneous** screen, ECF opens a new screen that contains hyperlinks to a Law Dictionary, a Medical Dictionary, and Westlaw via the Internet. Select the <u>Verify a Document</u> hyperlink to open a query screen and enter data in the screen fields to locate a particular document attached to a specific case number. There is also a **Mailings** hyperlink that opens a new screen for making or requesting mailings from ECF.

#### LOGOUT

After you have completed all of your transactions for a particular session in ECF, you should exit the system.



Click on the **Logout** hyperlink from the ECF **Blue** menu bar. ECF will log you out of the system and return you to the ECF login screen as depicted in Figure 4 of this manual.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING ECF

#### **Sealed Documents**

Continue to file sealed documents at the District Court Clerk's office in accordance with the existing practices and procedures for self-filing.

#### How to File if ECF is Out of Service

If ECF is out of service or unavailable, email the court at **insd\_helpdesk@insd.uscourts.gov** You may also file your pleading in person at the District Court Clerk's office with a floppy disc containing a PDF file of your document.

#### **Answers to Complaints**

If an Answer to a Complaint is filed in ECF before the Notification of Service of the Complaint has been entered, ECF may reject the electronic filing of the Notification of Service. If this occurs, call the ECF Administrator at (317) 229-3718 and ask for assistance.

# ATTACHMENTS

- ATTORNEY DOCUMENTS LIST
- ELECTRONIC CASE FILING ORDER
- ECF PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM
- NOTICE OF MANUAL FILING
- DECLARATION OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

# ATTORNEY'S DOCUMENTS FOR CIVIL EVENTS

#### **Initial Pleadings and Service**

#### Complaints and Other Initiating Documents

Amended Complaint

Application for Stay of Execution Application for Writ of Garnishment

Bankruptcy Appeal

Transfer In - District Transfer Transfer In - Divisional Transfer

Complaint

Complaint (SSA)
Counterclaim

Crossclaim Intervenor Complaint

Motion to Vacate/Set Aside/Correct Sentence (2255)

Notice of Removal Petition for Habeas Corpus Petition to Enforce IRS Summons Registration of Foreign Judgment

Third Party Complaint

#### Service of Process

Affidavit of Service Certificate of Service Request for Waiver of Service

Return of Personal Service

Return of Service

Return of Service by CMRRR Return of USM Service Service by Publication

Summons Returned Executed as to USA

Summons Returned Unexecuted Waiver of Service Executed Waiver of Service Unexecuted

#### **Answers to Complaints**

linked to events entered under complaints and other initiating docs

#### Other Answers

Affidavit in Opposition Affidavit in Support

Amended Answer to Complaint

Answer

Answer to Writ of Garnishment

Objection to Report and Recommendations

#### Motions and Related Filings

Amend/Correct

Motions

Appeal In Forma Pauperis Appear pro hac vice Appoint Counsel Appoint Receiver Attorney Fees

Bifurcate Bill of Costs

Certificate of Appealability

Certify Class Change Venue Compel

Consolidate Cases Continuance

Declaratory Judgment Default Judgment Deposit Funds Discovery Dismiss

Dismiss/Lack of Jurisdiction Dismiss/Lack of Prosecution

Disqualify Counsel Emergency Hearing Enforce Judgment Entry of Default Extension of Time to File

File Excess Pages
Forfeiture of Property

Forfeiture of In Limine Intervene

Joinder Judgment Debtor Exam

Judgment Debtor Exam
Judgment as a Matter of Law
Judgment of Forfeiture
Judgment on the Pleadings

Leave to Appeal Leave to File Modify

More Definite Statement

Motion

New Trial (Trial De Novo)

Order of Sale

Partial Summary Judgment Permanent Injunction Preliminary Injunction Pretrial Conference Proceed In Forma Pauperis Proceedings Supplemental

Produce

#### Motions (cont)

Protective Order

Ouash

Reconsideration

Release of Bond Obligation

Release of Funds

Remand

Return of Property

Sanctions

Seal Case

Seal Document

Service by Publication

Set Aside

Set Aside Default

Set Aside Forfeiture

Set Aside Judgment

Set Aside Verdict

Sever Stay

Strike

Substitute Party

Summary Judgment

Take Deposition

Taxation of Costs Temporary Restraining Order

Transfer Case

Unseal Case

Unseal Document

Vacate

Withdraw

Withdrawal Reference

Withdrawal as Attorney

Writ

Writ of Garnishment

Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum

Writ of Habeas Corpus ad testificandum

Writ of Mandamus

#### Responses and Replies

Affidavit in Opposition to Motion

Affidavit in Support of Motion

Brief/Memorandum in Support of Motion

Designation of Evidence

Reply in Support of Motion

Response in Opposition to Motion

Response to Motion (Unopposed)

Statement of Material Facts

Surreply

#### Other Filings

#### **ADR Documents**

Consent to Arbitration

Consent to Mediation

Objection to Report of Arbitrator/Mediator

Request for Trial De Novo

#### **Discovery Documents**

Answer to Interrogatories

Deposition Discovery

Notice to Take Deposition

Request for Admissions

Request for Production of Documents

Response to Discovery Request

#### **Notices**

Certificate of Counsel

Notice (Other)

Notice of Acceptance of Offer of Judgment

Notice of Appearance

Notice of Application of Writ

Notice of Change

Notice of Filing

Notice of Filing of Removal

Notice of Parties First Extension of Time

Notice of Service of Initial Disclosures

Notice of Taking Deposition

Notice of Voluntary Dismissal

Notice of Withdrawal of Appearance

#### **Trial Documents**

Contentions

Exhibit List

Proposed Findings of Fact

Proposed Jury Instructions

Proposed Voir Dire

Trial Brief

Witness List

#### **Appeal Documents**

Appeal Transcript Request

Appeal of Magistrate Judge Decision to District Court

Appellants Brief

Appellants Reply Brief

Appellees Brief

Designation of Record on Appeal

Docketing Statement

Notice of Appeal

Notice of Cross Appeal

Notice of Interlocutory Appeal

Subsequent Notice of Appeal

#### Other Documents

Abstract of Judgment

Affidavit

Amended Document (NOT MOTION)

Amicus Curiae Appearance

Appendix

Application

Application for Writ

Bill of Costs

Case Management Plan Tendered by

Civil Cover Sheet

Consent

Consent to Jurisdiction of US Magistrate Judge

Corporate Disclosure Statement

#### Other Documents

Declaration

Financial Affidavit - CJA 23

Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law (proposed)

Instruction

Interpleader

Jury Demand

Objections to Answer to Writ

Pretrial Memorandum

Proposed Pretrial Order

Redacted Document

Return to Order to Show Cause

Satisfaction of Judgment

Special Damages

Statement

Status Report

Stipulation

Stipulation of Dismissal

Submission

Submission of Signature Requirement

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

# ELECTRONIC CASE FILING ORDER

This case has been designated for the Court's Electronic Case Filing (ECF) Program and this order will be docketed in that case.

#### ORDERED: that counsel shall:

- Register to become an e-filer by filling out the e-filer registration form and returning it to the Court. (If counsel has already registered in another case, please do not register again.)
- Electronically <u>File</u> all subsequent papers in this case.
- Set up a **PACER** account (Public Access to Court Electronic Records), in order to view dockets and documents. If your office already has a PACER account, please use that account. It is not necessary to have a CM/ECF account to view documents. Call 800-676-6856 or visit www.pacer.psc.uscourts.gov for additional information.
- <u>Check</u> the docket by entering the Court's CM/ECF Internet site (<u>www.insd.uscourts.gov</u>), clicking on the <u>Electronic Case Filing</u> hyperlink, and logging in with your **PACER** login and password. Counsel is accountable for updates to the case.
- <u>Schedule training</u> within three weeks after the date of the initial filing. Contact Wendy Carpentier at (317) 229-3718, to schedule training. Filing instructions and an interactive tutorial can be found by entering the Court's Internet site (<a href="www.insd.uscourts.gov">www.insd.uscourts.gov</a>) and clicking on the hyperlink to <a href="Electronic Case Filing">Electronic Case Filing</a>.

United States District Judge

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

## **ELECTRONIC CASE FILING Attorney Registration Form**

This form shall be used to register for an account on the Court's Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system. Registered attorneys will have privileges both to electronically submit documents, and to view and retrieve electronic docket sheets and documents for all cases assigned to the Electronic Case Filing system. The following information is required for registration:

First/Middle/Last Name	·			
Attorney Bar ID#		State		
Firm Name				
Firm Address				
Voice Phone Number _				
FAX Phone Number				
Internet E-Mail Address	s			
Basis under which attorr	ney is permitted to	practice law in the U.S.	D.C. for Southern Indiana (c	check one):
□ Admi	tted in INSD	☐ Pro Hac Vice	☐ Government Attorney	
If Pro Hac Vice or Gov'	t Attorney, indicar	te the cause number for	r which admission has been	granted:
Cause Number			_	

By submitting this registration form, the undersigned agrees to abide by all Court rules, orders and policies and procedures governing the use of the electronic filing system. The undersigned also consents to receiving notice of filings pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b) and 77(d) via the Court's electronic filing system.

1. This system is for use only in cases permitted by the *U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana*. It may be used to file and view electronic documents, docket sheets, and notices. Please contact Wendy Carpentier at (317) 229-3718, to schedule training.

- 2. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, every pleading, motion, and other paper (except lists, schedules, statements or amendments thereto) shall be signed by at least one attorney of record or, if the party is not represented by an attorney, all papers shall be signed by the party. An attorney's ECF login and password issued by the court, serves in part as the attorney's signature, per Local Rule 5.11. Therefore, an attorney must protect and secure the password issued by the court. If there is any reason to suspect the password has been compromised in any way, it is the duty and responsibility of the attorney to immediately notify the court. The Court will immediately delete that password from the electronic filing system and issue a new password.
- 3. An attorney's registration will not waive conventional service of a summons and complaint, subpoena, or other judicial process; submit the client to the jurisdiction of the Court; or operate as a consent to accept service of pleadings, documents, and orders in actions in which such attorney has not entered an appearance. An attorney's registration will constitute a waiver in law only of conventional service of other non-process pleadings, documents, and orders in the case. The attorney agrees to accept, on behalf of the client, service of notice of the electronic filing by hand, facsimile or authorized e-mail.
- 4. Attorneys must be active members of the bar of this Court to file pleadings electronically.

Please return this form U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana

with <u>original</u> signature to: Attn: CM/ECF Administrator

46 East Ohio Street Indianapolis, IN 46204

\*\*\*Photocopies and faxes WILL NOT be accepted.

Attorney's Signature

NOTE: The information below will be used to generate a unique Login for use in accessing the ECF system. Please provide a four-digit number that is easy to remember, such as the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number.

First Initial of Full Last Name 4 Digit Number

First Name

#### SAMPLE FORMAT

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Plaintiff(s), vs. Defendant(s).	) ) ) ) Case No ) )
Notice	e of Manual Filing
Please take notice that [Plaintiff/Defendate document or thing: [Title of Document of Docu	ant, Name of Party] has manually filed the following or Thing]
electronic format/ the electronic file size	nically because [the document or thing cannot be converted to an of the document exceeds 1.5 megabytes/ the document or thing is ntiff/Defendant] is excused from filing this document or thing by
The document or thing has been manual	ly served on all parties.
Date:	s/ [Name of Password Registrant] Name of Password Registrant Law Firm Name
	Address City, State, Zip Code Phone: (xxx) xxx-xxxx Fax: (xxx) xxx-xxxx

E-mail: xxx@xxx.xxx

#### SAMPLE FORMAT

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Plaintiff(s), vs.	) ) ) ) Case No
Defendant(s).	) ) )
	ty was Unable to File in a Timely Manner Technical Difficulties
[Title of Document] in a timely manner d Document] was [Filing Deadline Date]. T timely manner and the good faith efforts	nt, Name of Party] was unable to file the attached tue to technical difficulties. The deadline for filing the [Title of he reason(s) that I was unable to file the [Title of Document] in a I made prior to the filing deadline to both Court and the other parties that I could not do so are set
[Statement of reasons and good faith effo	orts to file and to inform (including dates and times)]
I declare under penalty of perjury that the	e foregoing is true and correct.
Date:	s/ [Name of Password Registrant] Name of Password Registrant Law Firm Name Address City, State, Zip Code

Fax: (xxx) xxx-xxxx E-mail: xxx@xxx.xxx